

Agency Overview

In 1982, legislation was enacted to establish the Catastrophic Health Care Cost Program. The program is designed as an insurance program for the counties to cover the cost of treatment for catastrophic illness suffered by county residents who have no means to pay for the cost of that care. The program picks up the additional medical costs of these residents once the counties' claim payments have exceeded \$10,000 during a 12-month period. Legislation was enacted in 1991 to shift the program from county to state funding in FY 1994.

The CAT Fund is governed by an Administrative Board, which is made up of a County Commissioner representative from each of the six legislative districts in Idaho, as well as one Governor's appointee. Each Commissioner serves a two-year term, is elected by the County Commissioners of their district, and can serve as many consecutive terms as their constituents wish. The Governor's appointee serves at the pleasure of the Governor. The Board meets approximately every six weeks to review cases for approval and to attend to any business necessary for the administration of the CAT Fund.

A Contract Administrator carries out the day-to-day business of administering the CAT Fund. The Contract Administrator sees to the processing of all CAT cases, from presenting them to the Board for approval to the processing of payment of all medical bills received from the counties. The Contract Administrator works closely with the Welfare Directors and Commissioners of each county in order to facilitate payment of claims. The Contract Administrator also makes the yearly requests for appropriation to the legislature and advises the counties on points of indigent law. The Contract Administrator is employed on a year-to-year basis and each year must execute a new contract with the Catastrophic Board.

Every year it is challenge to meet the needs of the citizens of Idaho due to ever increasing health costs as well as the unknown downturn in the economy.

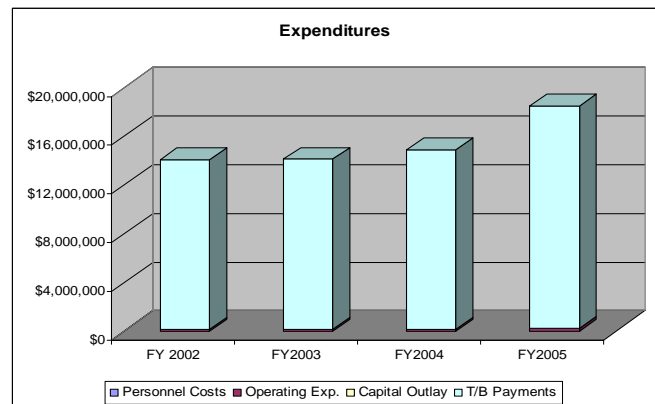
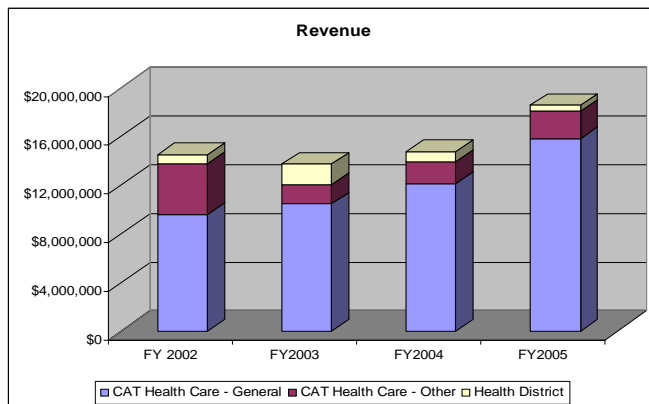
Core Functions/Idaho Code

The purpose of the CAT Fund is to assist counties in paying the medical bills for those indigents who have catastrophic medical emergencies and who have fallen through the cracks of the welfare system, or have inadequate insurance to meet the financial responsibilities when their medical costs are of catastrophic proportions. These indigents qualify first through the counties and the counties pay the first \$10,000.00 of each indigent's medical and hospital bills. The counties then submit the cases to the CAT Fund. After a review by the Administrative Board, the CAT Fund pays bills in excess of that \$10,000.00. Indigents approved for participation in the CAT program remain eligible for benefits for one calendar year. Should a case be considered catastrophic for a time period in excess of one calendar year, the county must pay an additional \$10,000.00 "deductible" after which the CAT Fund will again pay any bills in excess of that new \$10,000.00. Chapter 35, Title 31, Idaho Code.

Revenue and Expenditures:

Revenue	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
CAT Health Care - General	\$9,600,000	\$10,442,400	\$12,126,700	\$15,835,500
CAT Health Care - Other	\$4,157,500	\$1,603,000	\$1,800,000	\$2,225,000
Health District	<u>\$735,000</u>	<u>\$1,686,400</u>	<u>\$835,000</u>	<u>\$500,000</u>
Total	\$14,492,500	\$13,731,800	\$14,761,700	\$18,560,500
Expenditure	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Personnel Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Operating Expenditures	\$188,200	\$201,100	\$197,900	\$240,500
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Trustee/Benefit Payments	<u>\$13,889,100</u>	<u>\$13,938,300</u>	<u>\$14,709,400</u>	<u>\$18,271,600</u>
Total	\$14,077,300	\$14,139,400	\$14,907,300	\$18,512,100

(Note: Revenue does not include noncogs and receipts to appropriation.)



Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
Payments Made to Providers	12,710,558.64	13,535,611.58	14,406,051.10	17,775,489.51
Reimbursements Received	1,417,130.66	1,665,385.13	2,047,547.85	1,948,561.28
No. of Cases Payments Made to Providers	771	808	810	852
No. of Cases Receiving Reimbursement	1071	1225	1382	1558

Performance Highlights:

Pursuant to Idaho Code 31-3504, an automatic lien is attached to all real property of the applicant and on insurance benefits to which the applicant may become entitled. This statute has created additional funding to be used by the counties and the Catastrophic Fund for the increasing medical costs and needs of the indigent citizens of Idaho.

For More Information Contact

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